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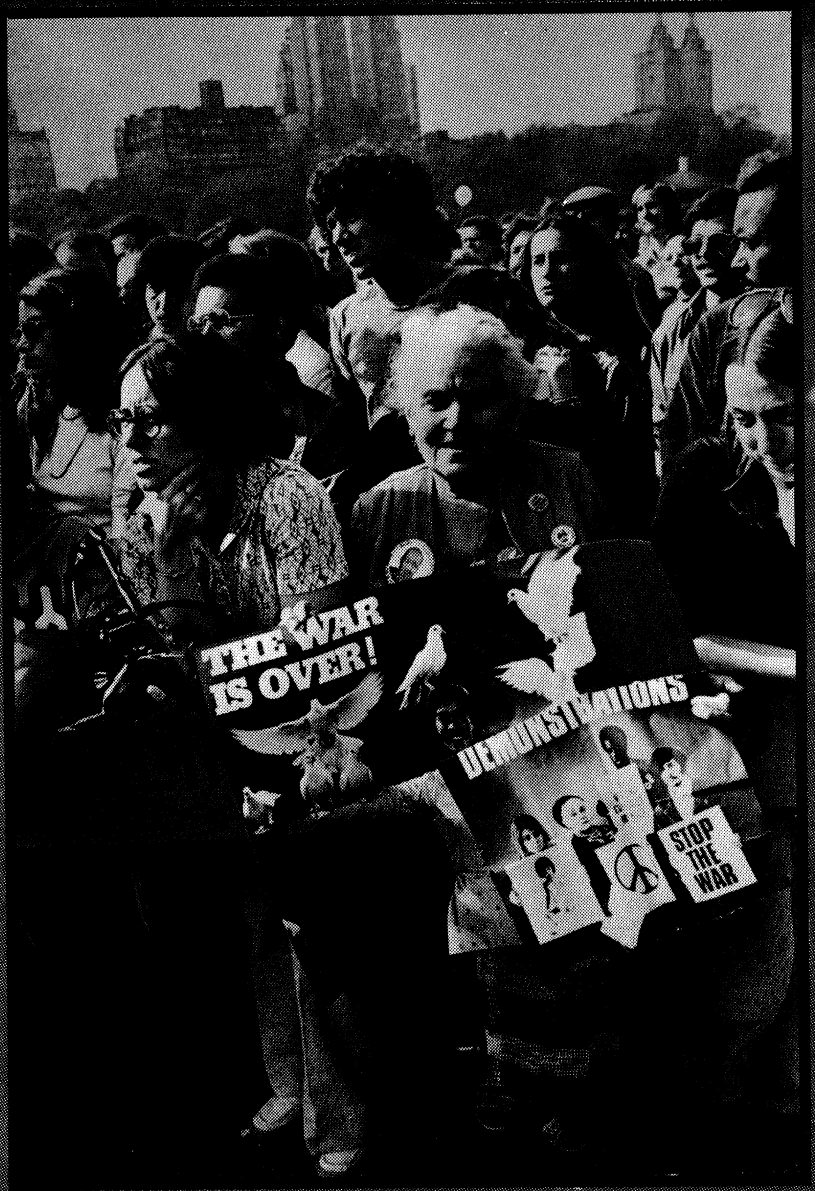

VIETNAM "Bloodbath": Official Propaganda

ATTICA: Interview With Charley Joe Pernasilice

#700 MAY 14, 1975

LNS

LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE May 14, 1975
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LIBERATION News Service, now in its eighth year, publishes semi-weekly packets of news copy and graphic material which are printed on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Produced by a collective of 13 people, each packet contains approximately 10 pages of single spaced copy and 1-3 pages of graphic material consisting of line shots and photographs. The photographs are half-tone on an 85-line screen.

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ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS

In the article on page 8 of #699 ("Former Shock Treatment Victims Testify Against Bill in California Legislature") we forgot to mention the Network Against Psychiatric Assault's address. It is 2150 Market Street, San Francisco, CA. 94114. (415) 863-4488. NAPA publishes Madness Network News Monthly.

OUR FIRST "NOTES FROM THE STAFF"

Yes, it's still us at LNS. But many weeks of discussions, inspired by movement friends, have made us think of changes -- first to make the packet easier for you to use; second, to begin varying the contents a bit.

We've started by putting the table of contents, including graphics listings, on a colored cover. In this way we hope that the various articles in each packet will be more immediately visible, and then easier to file.

In addition, we'll regularly point out certain articles and/or graphics that we think are especially newsworthy or notable.

And finally, cover information will include word counts indicating the length of each article, and a note for each article that has accompanying graphics.

There's another new feature planned for the inside front cover -- a "Notes From the Staff" letter to be run in each packet.

In these notes we'll be letting you know what LNS articles are in the works and when to expect them; what problems we might be running into on a particular article or subject area; and anything else we feel is important to let you know about. We know that it's easy to think of LNS as simply two brown envelopes in the mail each week, and we want to overcome that in order to be more accessible and useful to you.

As for the LNS copy, one venture we're embarking on is a series of columnists. Every so often (we hope to regularize it as much as possible) a person involved in issues ranging from the economy to foreign affairs to Third World and women's struggles will offer views we think are important to air.

We're also hoping to do more book, film and TV reviews and to ask people who are familiar with particular issues to write reviews for us.

All these changes are meant to make LNS better -- and we desperately want and need feedback from everyone. (Among other things, we'd like to start printing letters from subscribers.) As we go along, please let us know what you think of the changes and any other ideas you might have to improve LNS.

Love,

The LNS Collective

P.S. Beware! The ends (continuations) of stories we can't quite fit on a page will no longer be on the reverse side of the cover. They'll now be making their appearance on the last page of copy so keep a look out.

IF YOU ARE MISSING A PAGE OR GET A BADLY PRINTED GRAPHIC, LET US KNOW AND WE'LL SEND YOU ANOTHER ONE SOON

(See story in packet #692 on verdict.)

AN LNS INTERVIEW WITH ATTICA DEFENDANT
CHARLEY JOE PERNASILICE

(Editor's Note: The following is an interview with Attica defendant Charley Joe Pernasilice done after he and his co-defendant John Hill were found guilty of charges stemming from the Attica rebellion September 9-13, 1971. Hill, convicted of murder, was sentenced May 9 to 20 years to life, and Pernasilice, found guilty of attempted second degree assault, was given two years.

The interview was done for LNS by Lou Shafer and Milt Taam.)

WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THE VERDICT?

We learned something from this trial and that is that there is no such thing as a fair trial, given the nature of this case and the fact that this conviction was the one they really wanted to get.

The political trials in the past ten years have brought a few victories but only around charges that people could understand were political. The government learned a lesson from that and started charging people with crimes--criminal charges for political actions--and that is something the American jury system doesn't understand, the people don't understand.

When you go into court, you're charged with murder. The judge sets his own rules about what evidence he will allow in court. The jury doesn't see Attica from September 9 to the 13, 1971 or what led up to the 9th or what's been going on since the 13th. The jury only saw a very very one-sided picture of what this indictment was all about. We were not allowed to bring in the fact that the grand jury that indicted us was illegitimate and that some of the witnesses that testified against us were friends of the people on the grand jury, and people who worked in the prison.

IN WHAT WAYS DID THE PRESIDING JUDGE, GILBERT KING, HAMPER THE DEFENSE?

In his charge to the jury for example, while he was explaining the nature of our charges, he specifically singled out the only two witnesses who testified against me and stated his views of their evidence. In other words, he stated his opinion that the evidence that the two state witnesses gave against me was right and valid and they should believe it. This didn't show our contradicting those two witnesses.

During the Wade Hearing, the judge threw me in jail for being two hours late to court. (A Wade Hearing is an identification hearing where the defendants don't have to be present.) He threw me in jail that night and the next day I got beat up by sheriffs. When I was let out the next afternoon, we demanded a full hearing into the beating.

I remember the time when the attorney general and my lawyers went up to a bench conference. King sits up high in a big bench with a rail around him. Everyone else leaned their arms up on his rail to have the conference. When I put my hand up, he rapped me with a pencil and told me to get my hand off his desk. So I said to him, "What do you think I am? A Schoolboy?' Then the attorney general chimed in saying ' Your honor, you heard him, he called you a screwball.' Even the court reporter had gotten my words down correctly.

I think that we got railroaded and what hurts for most of us involved is that we were fooled. We were fooled because we expected that we would be able to be human enough to show the jury that there was something else other than what the state was showing them.

What turned out was that they bought the state's complete story even after we showed them that the state interviewed their witnesses for 25 hours before they would bring them to court and we'd see our witnesses the night before. The fact is that one of their main witnesses against Johnny (Hill) was not even a witness to any crime alleged in the indictment but was a witness against another alleged crime against Johnny in another indictment, but the judge allowed him to be brought in and testify.

DID ANYTHING NEW COME OUT DURING THE TRIAL THAT OPENED UP WHAT HAPPENED AT ATTICA?

No, the judge specifically kept testimony and evidence limited to what happened the morning of September 9.

What's happened with the Bell situation in the last couple weeks (the special Attica prosecutor who resigned because the state refuses to prosecute officials, guards and police for crimes committed) is what we've been saying for three years. These cases have been an illegitimate fraud from the word 'go.' The indictments are invalid because of the biases of the grand jury and the biases of the investigating committee.

What the Bell report is all about is "selective prosecution." You can't selectively apply the law. If they are going to apply criminal laws and prosecute us, then they will have to prosecute state officials as well. If they are not going to, they they will have to dismiss all of this because there is no way any reasonable person can legitimize prosecuting us when they killed 43 people on September 13.

WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO TESTIFIED AGAINST YOU?

We tried to show the jury that the people who did testify against us were granted parole for their testimony--that the prosecution bribed inmates with freedom. Take William Rivers, for example. He was sent to prison on an assault charge--got a 4-year sentence, was sent to Attica, did one year and got out. When I first went to prison on my four-year bid for a stolen motorcycle when I was 16 years old, I did 18 months before I was ever released on parole.

We got hold of letters by the organized crime task force (the Fisher Committee that gathered evidence for all the Attica indictments) to the parole department saying that certain people cooperated with them in their investigation and any consideration that they would give them would be greatly appreciated. What is that saying? It's saying that these people cooperated with us, and we want you to cooperate with them and give them their freedom.

We thought that this would show the jury the fabrications in this case. I really cannot answer for them why they didn't see it, or why if they did see it, they didn't deal with it. But the issues are there. We are going to try to show that the prosecution witnesses all came from the same area around Attica, that they all got paroled for their testimony, that they all

had the same parole officer. We're going to raise these issues when we go to the appellate court.

And we're going to show that a couple of the witnesses, William Rivers and Edward Zimmer, have been arrested since they were paroled and that the arrest charges were dropped because the state didn't want anything to discredit them in their testimony against us.

WHAT IMPACT WILL THIS CONVICTION HAVE ON UPCOMING CASES?

Now that they got this conviction, they're going to be working very hard. It's pretty clear that Judge Ball (chief judge of the Attica trials) who was appointed by Rockefeller himself, will be pushing for the other murder cases to go to trial.

They are bringing Shango to trial, Dalou to trial, and they are pushing indictment #10, the attempted murder and kidnapping charges from C block. The state feels they have won a victory and they are going to push as hard as they can to make that victory go over a few more indictments.

IN ALOT OF OTHER POLITICAL TRIALS, LIKE CHICAGO, GAINESVILLE, AND ALOT OF THE WOUNDED KNEE CASES, MOST OF THE PEOPLE GOT OFF. BUT IN PRISON CASES, THE LEAVENWORTH BROTHERS, THE ATMORE-HOLMAN BROTHERS, THEY'RE GETTING CONVICTIONS. DO YOU THINK THIS IS BECAUSE TIMES HAVE CHANGED OR DO YOU THINK IT'S THE POLITICAL NATURE OF PRISON CASES VERSUS OTHER KINDS OF CASES?

I think it's the nature of the case. There's been alot of prison rebellions around the country, alot of incidents in prison, but the American people have been led to believe, ever since the penal system was introduced 100 years ago, that all the people in prison deserve to be there and deserve to get what they get. No matter what it is, inhuman treatment, inhuman conditions, they don't see it. They just see the person in prison as a criminal.

I really don't know too many cases where prisoners have won much of anything. I don't think that anything is ever going to get won in this country the way it is, under the government that exists, under capitalism, under imperialism. Not until those systems change are prisoners ever going to get a chance to be human beings.

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WOMAN CUB KICKED OUT OF PACK

JESSUP, Md.(LNS)--Twenty-one cub scouts in Jessup, Maryland were kicked out of the national scouting organization because their pack leader was a woman.

Pack 471 was disenfranchised in March because cub scout bylaws require pack leaders to be men, said a spokesman for the Boy Scouts of America.

"This policy of having men in leadership roles is based on many studies," he said, defending the decision. "A strong male presence is required as cubmaster."

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(See packet #692 for article on verdict.)

ATTICA DEFENDANTS HILL AND PERNASILICE SENTENCED

BUFFALO, N.Y.(LNS)--Attica defendants John (Dacajeweiah) Hill and Charley Joe Pernasilice, found guilty of charges stemming from the 1971 prison uprising, were sentenced May 8 by a state Supreme Court. Hill, found guilty of the murder of guard William Quinn, was given 20 years to life and Pernasilice was sentenced to a term of up to two years for attempted assault on the guard.

"This is not a fair and equal system of justice," said Hill's attorney William Kunstler. "Hill was tried by a prejudiced judge in a prejudiced courtroom."

Pointing to the fact that no state official, guard or state trooper has yet to be indicted for crimes committed during the massacre of September 13, Kunstler said, "The real criminals are never brought to trial, they are pardoned for millions of deaths in Vietnam. We all know who murdered 43 people at Attica.

"I'm not going to say anymore since any further statement might be interpreted as legitimizing this proceeding. I know nothing I say will affect what you do and in this solemn moment I'm not going to give the impression to the outside world that there is justice here."

When asked if he had anything to say, Hill rose and explained that he was standing not out of respect for the court, but rather "so my people can hear what is in my heart."

Looking frequently at supporters in the courtroom, Hill called his trial "the most sickening and outrageous display of justice I have ever seen. Have they ever thought about the 43 people who died at the time?"Hill asked. Have they ever thought about the 14 million Indian people killed by the white man? We know that when they talk about justice, they mean just us."

After pronouncing the sentence, Judge Gilbert King granted Pernasilice be kept on $10,000 bail pending appeal. Hill is still imprisoned. Lawyers for both defendants are filing appeals.

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CHILEAN JUNTA BANS FILM FOR "EXALTING VIOLENCE"

SANTIAGO,Chile(LNS)--The Chilean military junta has banned the film "The Day of the Jackal" on the grounds that it "exalts violence and might lead to criminal acts," according to Variety. The film is about an attempted assassination of Charles de Gaulle.

The movie was suppressed by a special decree of the Ministry of Education after it had been passed by the censorship board. Last year, the junta banned "Executive Action," a film which dealt with the assassination of John Kennedy, although it has allowed kung-fu movies and other violent films to be shown.

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BY NOW YOU'VE GOTTEN YOUR MAY BILLS, PLEASE PAY THEM AND ANY BACK BILLS THAT YOU OWE AS SOON AS YOU CAN.

LOVE, LNS

SUIT AGAINST "OPERATION BABYLIFT" FILED; SEEKS TO REUNITE VIETNAMESE CHILDREN WITH THEIR FAMILIES

SAN FRANCISCO (LNS)--A civil suit on behalf of Vietnamese children was filed in a California federal court against government officials responsible for the "Operation Babylift" on April 27.

The suit charges that many of the over 2000 Vietnamese children evacuated to the U.S. from April 3-28 were illegally evacuated and adopted. The suit also maintains that many of the children wish to return to Vietnam, and, contrary to Operation Babylift coordinators' contentions, many or most of the children are not orphans.

The suit was filed by Muoi McConnell, a Vietnamese woman, and is being handled by the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York. McConnell, a nurse's aid living in the San Francisco area, said she had volunteered to work at a processing center for the evacuated children in San Francisco where she learned that some of the children there wished to go back to Vietnam.

Specifically, the suit was filed on behalf of three Vietnamese siblings, aged 3, 6, and 7 years old. According to the suit, the children had become separated from their parents during the retreat of the Saigon army and were temporarily placed in an orphanage until their parents could be located.

"[The] plaintiffs had been living in the 'orphanage' for only days before they were removed, abducted and transported to this country," the suit charges. "No efforts were made to reunite them with their parents before bringing them here."

McConnell said the three children "were desperate and begged me to help them return to their parents." However, McConnell was refused permission to interview the children further, and has been refused information of the children's current whereabouts by Operation Babylift coordinators.

The lawsuit requests the disclosure of the current location of all 2000 infants and children evacuated by the airlift, and permission to interview the children to determine if they wish to return to Vietnam.

The suit also requests that the government be required to turn over records on the childrens' pasts, records relating to the airlift and adoptions, and the identities and addresses of the childrens' Vietnamese parents and/or guardians.

A spokesperson for the Center for Constitutional Rights said however, "Frankly, I don't think the government even cares where these children came from, and I'd be surprised if they even have these records."

The federal judge hearing the suit, Spencer Williams, refused to grant a temporary restraining order in early May which would have forbidden further adoption of the children until it is determined whether the children should be returned to Vietnam. Preliminary hearings on the suit are scheduled for May 15, and a lawyer for the plaintiffs says both U.S. and international laws stand in favor of the return of the Vietnamese children.

The lawyer said it appeared that many, if not most, of the children were illegally adopted since most states in the U.S. require an affidavit from a child's parents or guardian relinquishing rights before a child can be adopted. Many of the children were apparently adopted without these essential papers.

The evacuation and adoption of the Vietnamese children is also in violation of the 1973 Paris Peace Accords, the plaintiffs charge. The Peace Accords prohibit the U.S. from "interven[ing] into the internal affairs of South Vietnam."

The "babylift" is also in apparent violation of the 1949 Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian Persons in the Time of War. Specifically, Article 49 of the 1949 Convention "prohibits taking of protected persons to a non-neutral country regardless of motive" and requires that "persons thus evacuated (only for temporary security of the population) shall be transferred back as soon as hostilities...have ceased."

Article 24 of the Geneva Convention states the evacuated childrens' "education shall be entrusted to persons of similar cultural tradition," and Article 50 requires that "all steps to facilitate the identification of children and registration of their parentage," shall be taken, and, "particulars of their parents or other near relatives shall always be recorded."

* * *

Although the lawsuit names Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Secretary of Justice Edward Levy, and Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger as co-defendants and officials responsible for the Operation Babylift, it is not known exactly who gave the orders to implement the airlift.

However, a Thieu cabinet appointee, Phan Quang Dan, said that in a conversation he had with U.S. Ambassador Graham Martin in late March, Martin "stressed that this evacuation will create a shift in American public opinion in favor of [Saigon]. When these children land in the United States," Dan reported Martin as saying, "they will be subject to television, radio and press agency coverage and the effect will be tremendous."

The effect was a tremendous outpouring of indignation however, from the international community, but particularly from the Vietnamese themselves.

The evacuation was sharply attacked by Huynh Lien, the head of the Mendicant Buddhist order, one of the largest and most influential of the religious orders in Vietnam. "We have lost too many people in this war already," Lien said, "so why send away our children too? It is an insult to Vietnamese women to suppose that they cannot look after their own children."

Lien denied reports in the American press that Vietnamese children of American fathers would be subject to discrimination in Vietnam, adding that the children are likely instead to face discrimination in the U.S. "We feel a Buddhist love for all people," Lien said, "It does not matter who the father of the child is."

The Mendicant order maintained an orphanage in South Vietnam throughout the war, but Lien said the Thieu administration restricted the number of children the order could take care of because of the Mendicants' opposition to the war. Lien said

the order could have taken care of many of the 2000 evacuated Vietnamese children if they had been called upon, but she would prefer that the children be reunited with their families instead.

And Phan Thi Minh, a spokeswoman for the then Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, said "Only now, after years of bombing and napalm have destroyed our villages full of women and children, are these governments worried about the fate of our little ones." Minh also added that the U.S. policies in Vietnam had created 10-12 million refugees in the South and that if any of the children were orphans, it was undoubtedly because their parents had been killed by U.S. or Saigon army troops.

* * *

Anybody who has information on the current whereabouts of the Vietnamese children evacuated under the Operation Babylift is requested to get in touch with the Center for Constitutional Rights. The Center stresses that the information is vital since Judge Williams has indicated the burden of proof in the suit will be on the plaintiffs.

People with information should get in touch with Nancy Stearns at the Center for Constitutional Rights, 853 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003. (212) 674-3303.

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THOUSANDS IN U.S. CELEBRATE INDOCHINA VICTORIES

NEW YORK (LNS)--Tens of thousands of people in several cities of the United States, including New York, Boston, Washington DC, Berkeley, Madison and Los Angeles, gathered in mid-May to celebrate the recent victories in Indochina. Singing and dancing marked most of the celebrations. Yet many of the brief speeches emphasized the need to mourn the dead, to work for unconditional amnesty for war resisters, and to struggle to make future Vietnams impossible.

Some 50,000 to 100,000 people filled the Sheep Meadow of New York's Central Park, which was dotted with banners and balloons, on Sunday May 11. The event, called "The War Is Over -- Celebrate the Victory of Peace and the People," was organized by a coalition of about 100 anti-war and community groups within 10 days of the liberation of Saigon.

Music dominated the celebration, which featured activist performers Joan Baez, Rev. Fred Kirkpatrick, Phil Ochs, Pete Seeger, Patti Smith, Peter Yarrow, Barbara Dane, the Human Condition, American Indian Movement drummers, and others.

"Although we rejoice that the fighting and dying are behind us," said Louise Ransom, a Gold Star Mother for Amnesty, whose son was killed in Vietnam seven years ago, "we must still deal with the unfinished business of amnesty for more than half a million war resisters."

"The end of the fighting and dying is a joyous occasion," noted Clive Robinson, President of the National Distributive Workers of America. "But how can there be peace when millions of workers are out on the street, when people are starving, when health needs are not met, when cities are rotting?

"Never again," he continued, "must the American people allow themilitary-industrial complex to lead us again into an unjust war."

Cora Weiss, a long-time anti-war activist with Women Strike for Peace and Clergy and Laity Concerned, called for increased medical aid for the people of Vietnam and Cambodia.

And Vietnamese living in Montreal sent their greetings by phone which was broadcast on a loudspeaker. "Our country from north to south is completely liberated," said a member of the Union of Vietnamese Women in Montreal. "This marks the beginning of an era of peace, independence, unity and democracy as called for in the Paris Peace Agreements....We wish you success in your struggle," she concluded, referring to the work that lies ahead for American activists.

Other speakers included representatives of the Union of Vietnamese in the U.S. and Khmer Residents of the U.S,; Dave Dellinger; former Green Beret Jerry Condon; New York Representatives Bella Abzug and Liz Holtzman; United Farm Workers organizer Laurie Huerta; actor Ossie Davis; and Harry Belafonte.

Booths and murals set up by a wide range of anti-war, community and solidarity groups encircled the Sheep Meadow, the site of one of the earliest mass draft card burnings at an anti-war protest of 400,000 in April, 1967.

* * *

Some days earlier, as soon as the news broke on April 29 of Saigon's liberation, spontaneous celebrations were held in several cities. About 1500 people were gathered by midnight, April 30, in Berkeley, where a member of the Union of Vietnamese spoke and a three-hour march followed.

The same night, Madison, Wisconsin saw a spontaneous demonstration that began in a theater on State Street. There, blues singer Bonnie Raite encouraged her packed audience to go out into the streets to celebrate.

In commemoration of the Kent and Jackson State killings, but celebrating the Indochina victories as well, about 300 Washington DC residents came to a rally in Lafayette Park on May 4.

Also on May 4, a "Days of Solidarity" coalition of various anti-war groups in Boston sponsored a march and rally that drew about 600 people despite the pouring rain. The action was planned to commemorate the invasion of Cambodia five years ago and the Jackson and Kent State killings.

"The victory in Vietnam is victory for all of us," said a member of the Union of Vietnamese to the crowd. "The history of the Vietnam war cannot be separated from the history of the anti-war movement. This is not the end of our common struggle but only the beginning."

A week later, on May 11, 32 anti-war and community groups around Boston held an all-day fair in Cambridge celebrating the Indochinese victories. A statement that will be sent to Indochina was drawn up by the various organizations, affirming their commitment to self-determination for Indochina, diplomatic recognition of the new governments, and reconstruction aid.

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(see graphics)

U.S. GOVERNMENT REPORTS OF BLOODBATH IN SAIGON PROVE TO BE "OFFICIAL PROPAGANDA"

LIBERATION News Service

NEW YORK(LNS)--Telegrams sent by the American Embassy in Saigon in March and April which told of Provisional Revolutionary Government(PRG) massacres and atrocities in the newly liberated territories of South Vietnam have no basis in fact, according to a recent report by the Indochina Resource Center(IRC) in Washington, D.C. who has been the documents.

The telegrams were sent from Saigon to the State Department in Washington which then prepared summaries of the alleged atrocities. The press was provided with these summaries, and widely publicized them in the U.S..

The Indochina Resource Center says it has analyzed the original documents and says it finds them unworthy of credibility. "They should have been dismissed out of hand as official propaganda," writes the Center, "rather than reported coast-to-coast as serious news reports."

As part of the Ford administration's publicity campaign, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger told the House Armed Services Committee on April 18 that accounts "which seem to us plausible" indicated that hundreds of thousands of people in South Vietnam would be killed.

The same day Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger estimated the number of liquidations would run between 200,000 and one million. And on April 30, with the evacuation of Americans and tens of thousands of Vietnamese completed, President Ford said, "I got them out because they were going to be killed."

Gov't Propaganda Increases With Saigon Collapse

In March and April, as Saigon's defenses in the northern half of the country collapsed and the PRG assumed control of province after province without a fight, the U.S. Embassy in Saigon began to gather material for a campaign charging that the PRG was conducting a bloodbath. Embassy personnel began to interview refugees. The embassy also solicited accounts of alleged atrocites from Saigon government officials, according to the IRC report.

The telegrams that were eventually sent to Washington were extremely selective. The IRC says that all reports that indicated a peaceful transition in South Vietnam were eliminated and that "only the most extreme reports of killing or threatened killing of Saigon officials" were included.

Even Newsweek said that a U.S. official had confided that the Embassy in Saigon "called out only the most extreme cases to send to Washington," and that "the embassy did not pass on to Kissinger refugee interviews that tended to cast doubt on the bloodbath theory."

State Department Telegram 2510 was largely responsible for a national CBS Evening Report in April that the PRG was planning "the slaughterhouse" for all non-PRG leadership. This telegram said that "Lo Sat" or the"slaughterhouse" was the third phase officially outlined for the PRG takeover.

The source of the story was an unnamed Saigon official who said that a PRG cadre had told him to "warn all officials and traditional leaders of the local people to leave because eventually they would be killed."

The word "Lo Sat", according to the IRC, must have been created by the Saigon government, for "no such terminology has ever been used by Communist Party officials in their internal documents."

In fact, says the IRC, the telegram itself suggests the source fabricated the entire story. The conclusion of the telegram reads, "NVA (North Vietnamese Army) , local force and 'PRG' cadres were all insistent on trying to learn the whereabouts of FULRO elements on eliminating them."

FULRO is the Unified Front for the Struggle of Oppressed Races (referring to non-Vietnamese minority people) and was organized in 1964 by the Saigon government. Initially it had strong ties to the U.S. Special Forces (Green Berets), but over the years, gradually lost allegiance with Saigon.

In fact, on March 14 the French daily Le Monde published a report that FULRO units had lead the attack on Saigon forces in Ban Me Thout. FULRO units were said to be "the first to enter the city." This report was written by Paul Leandri, the Agence France Presse reporter who was subsequently arrested in Saigon the morning his dispatch was published.

Leandri was shot and killed by Saigon police that same day, as he tried to leave police headquarters. Two days later a well known anti-Communist religious leader in Saigon confirmed Leandri's story on the basis of his own interviews with priests and refugees from Ban Me Thout.

Far Eastern Economic Review, a publication from Hong Kong, also reported that "some observers go so far as to say that Leandri was murdered because of what he had written."

"In light of Leandri's death," concludes the IRC report, "the claim that PRG leaders were plotting to liquidate FULRO leaders appears even more suspect. Telegram 2510 therefore seems to be a piece of manufactured 'misinformation.'"

Telegram 4993 to the State Department appears to be the source for most recent news reports about the shelling of refugees leaving the provinces Saigon abandoned in late March. It says its sources are "mostly eyewitnesses" among refugees who were interviewed by the U.S. Embassy.

The telegram recounts how "enemy mortar and recoilless rifle fire continued to pour into the mostly civilian crowd...and people at the river's edge were driven by their own panic and by the press of the terrorized crowd behind them." Several thousand people were reportedly killed.

What the press did not report was that the telegram itself admitted that much of the killing resulted from attacks on the column by Saigon government helicopter gunships and South Vietnamese Air Force fighter bombers, which "began dropping ordnance on the crowd itself."

The IRC has also received letters from American

Friends Service Committee volunteers still in South Vietnam that contradict the State Department telegram.

One letter from Thomas Hoskins, an American doctor in Da Nang, said that not only did the North Vietnamese and PRG troops not harass or attack the convoy of refugees on its way south, but on the contrary, turned on their tanks' headlights at some risk to light up the roadway. Hoskins reported that most of the fighting that went on was actually instigated by ARVN soldiers who made up almost half the crowd.

Telegram 5599 recounted a story that was reported widely by the press that the PRG in liberated Ban Me Thuot singled out from a large crowd in the market place 300 people who had opposed them, and shot them on the spot. The source of the story was a conversation with a Saigon policeman who had allegedly interviewed a Buddhist monk who claimed to be an eyewitness to the mass reprisals.

The same Saigon policeman, again quoting the monk, said that the families of those killed were led out of town, and that mortars were fired into their midst.

This part of the story is directly contradicted by consistent and explicit policies followed by the PRG throughout the war of trying to win over the families of those killed by the revolutionary forces, according to documents that have been captured by the American army itself.

"The entire story must again be treated with grave reservations," writes IRC. "The existence of the Buddhist monk himself is in doubt, since when reporters asked to talk with the source of the story he could not be located anywhere in Saigon."

The IRC warns that even claims by eyewitnesses must be treated with care. Quaker volunteers in Saigon heard stories of mass executions in Quang Ngai province, but they reported that "almost invariably the persons spreading the story left before the alleged incident took place." One woman who said that the PRG was shooting all police in Quang Ngai admitted that she actually had left before the PRG had entered the city.

"She and her neighbors who were policemen believed this would happen," according to a cable from the Quaker observers.

Finally State Department Telegram 5725 reported on the wholesale liquidation of police and other civil servants everywhere. However, no sources or details have been supplied.

The telegram was a 12-page translation of a report that had been given them by Tran Quoc Buu, president of the anti-communist labor federation until Saigon's surrender. According to John Marks, an ex-CIA analyst who co-authored "The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence" with Victor Marchetti, Buu is "a totally controlled CIA asset."

The telegram was also intended to blame the PRG for the killing of civilians that was reportedly done by ARVN soldiers. The report says the deaths on many evacuation ships from Da Nang were the result of Communist agents "disguised" as ARVN soldiers.

"The fact that the Embassy would pass on so blatant a piece of Saigon government propaganda," writes IRC, "indicates the difficulty it encountered in unearthing any credible stories in support of the alleged bloodbath."

In fact there has been absolutely no verification by anyone of any of the incidents alleged to have taken place. Even Newsweek was forced to admit in its April 28 issue that its reporters "have been unable to substantiate any of the reports and rumors of mass executions. Every one of the Vietnamese who claimed to have been an eyewitness to an atrocity ultimately admitted he had not actually seen the incident -- but that he had merely heard of it second or third hand."

IRC points out that although a number of reports have contradicted the alleged reprisals, they have not received much publicity.

A major from Hue was reported in the New York Times to have said the Communists had "not bothered anyone." One Vietnamese businessman who spent nine days in Da Nang after the PRG arrived, reported in an interview with Reuters News Agency that "as far as (I) know, there have been no massacres of South Vietnamese soldiers, civil servants or refugees."

A CBS correspondent in Da Nang talked to the American doctor, Thomas Hoskins. When asked whether he had observed any signs of a bloodbath, Hoskins replied, "None whatsoever."

Most recently, a UPI dispatch from Saigon on May 7 (the anniversary of the victory at Dien Bien Phu in 1954) reported "no reprisals" in that city.

"The U.S. has ended its intervention in Vietnam," concludes the IRC, "as it began in 1954, with a massive effort to charge the Vietnamese revolutionaries with the intention of massacring their former foes.

"Nevertheless, there is no evidence whatsoever to substantiate the design for wholesale slaughter that U.S. officials have always attributed to their adversaries in Vietnam."

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WATERGATE SPECIAL PROSECUTOR IGNORED: "JUST A WOMAN"

NEW YORK (LNS)--Jill Vollner, the assistant special prosecutor in the Watergate case, says that some of the Watergate defendants didn't take her seriously early in the the investigation simply because she was a woman.

"The first time I met with Jeb Magruder and his lawyer," said Vollner, "they assumed I was a secretary. When a male assistant prosecutor asked them if they wanted some coffee, Magruder immediately turned to me and said, 'I'll take mine black.'" Later Magruder compounded his error in the courtroom by answering Vollner's cross-examination questions "yes sir" and "no sir."

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(Thanks to the Drummer for this short).

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Got any news? Send it along to LNS, 160 Claremont Ave. New York, N.Y. 10027. Or call (212) 749-2200. okay?

[see packet #648 for background]

RIGHTISTS RESIGN LAOTIAN COALITION GOVERNMENT

VIENTIANE, Laos (LNS)--In a major defeat for what remained of U.S. influence in Laos, all five right wing members of the Laotian cabinet resigned May 9, leaving the Pathet Lao (Lao Patriotic Front) and the neutralists in control of the coalition government. According to Pathet Lao radio, the collapse of the right wing followed the failure of a coup attempt by rightists, led by the pro-U.S. Defense Minister Sisouk na Champassak. Champassak and four or five key rightist generals have since reportedly fled the country.

Under the agreement which formed the coalition government a year ago, both the Pathet Lao and the right wing pro-U.S. Royal Lao Government were allowed to retain their own armed forces. The latest events indicate, however, that the rightist forces have largely disintegrated.

On May 11, a group of 150 officer cadets under the rightist command revolted and took over a government technical school and passed out leaflets charging that their officers were valets of the CIA. The cadets,who were joined in the rebellion by tank and artillery units south of Vientiane, and troops at a supply depot inside the capital both charged that their superiors had tried to recruit them for an attempted coup. They declared their independence from the rightist command and said that they would only take orders from neutralist premier of the coalition government Souvanna Phouma.

Later that day Premier Souvanna Phouma appointed a neutralist, Brigadier General Boupha as acting Defense Minister to replace Champasska. Boupha grounded all air force planes and warned against unauthorized troop movements.

According to Internews, the rightist generals and political leaders failed to gain support for a coup within the military and faced strong political opposition in the major cities of the country. In a May 9 demonstration, nearly 4,000 students and teachers marched on the U.S. embassy in Vientiane, condemning CIA intervention in Laos and demanding the resignation of the five rightist cabinet ministers and several right wing generals--among them, Major General Vang Pao, the leading right wing general.

Since the beginning of May, many top rightist officers and politicians, along with hundreds of merchants and other Laotians have reportedly fled to Thailand in anticipation of a Pathet Lao takeover. Most observers, however, do not expect the Pathet Lao to force the neutralists and remaining rightists out of the coalition.

"Over the past several years the rightist position has been severely weakened," explained George Hildebrand of the Indochina Resource Center in Washington. "Most of the country is nationalist and backs the left. The coalition government set up a phony equality--one rightist minister for one Pathet Lao. But it was a very unrealistic reflection of the real political situation. U.S. aid is the only thing that's kept the right wing alive."

The U.S. backed a right wing coup in 1958 after the Pathet Lao won 14 out of 21 seats in the National assembly. Pro-Pathet Lao sentiment remained firm throughout the next 17 years of U.S. intervention which included U.S. backed right wing coups, CIA training of mercenary armies, and four years of massive bombing.

When the 1973 ceasefire was announced, refugees in camps in the Royal Lao Government zones displayed Pathet Lao flags. And when Pathet Lao leader Prince Souphanouvong returned to Vientiane April 1974 after his 11 year exile, he was greeted with flowers and cheers.

"The demonstration in Vientiane May 9 focused on getting of the small U.S. supported right wing--which has no popular support," explained Hildebrand. "What's significant about the demonstration is that is was fairly large and predominantly urban, middle class--the kind of people that would have been expected to be on the U.S. side, supposedly afraid of Pathet Lao bloodbaths. It's a measure of how far things have gone to the left since the U.S.started intervening in Laos.

"The Pathet Lao has a solid program for development and for overcoming national divisions," Hildebrand continued. "It really represents the Laotian people and their desire for peace, and that's the secret of its support. The middle classes recognize that. They all want peace and development, and for that they're ready to forego the privileges they might have in another country."

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THIS IS (WHITE) AMERICA'S STORY

NEW YORK (LNS)--Houghton-Mifflin's popular eighth grade textbook, "This is America's Story," by Wilder Ludlum and Brown, was recently analyzed by United Native Americans of San Francisco. Here is some of what they came up with:

*Indians called "savages" pages 116,128,184 and 144("hostile savages")

*"Hostile Indians lurked in surrounding forests, ready to attack at every opportunity." pg 86

*Andrew Jackson chapter:no mention of Indian removal, or of Cherokee's Trail of Tears

*"In the centuries that Indians inhabited North America, they had done little to improve or advance their way of life.'Should the Indian be allowed to stop settlement and progress?' the white man asks. The more they suffered from Indian attacks, the stronger the frontiersmen felt 'the only good Indian is a dead Indian.'" pg 431.

*Implications that American history begins with the whites:"Only Indian hunters inhabited this land... an untamed continent." pg 2;Unit I begins with the story of Columbus invading--"It was the day when the story of America began." pg 14; "The march of American history did not begin in this country but in Europe." pg 16; "Thousands of people have sensed the brave spirit of America's beginnings while visiting Mayflower II, a reconstruction." pg V.

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thanks to FPS, a magazine of young people's liberation.

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HOT NEWS? COLD NEWS? ANY NEWS?

Let us know about news in your area. We depend on our subscribers to keep us informed.

--LNS

[Note to editors: the day before this packet went to press, the White House announced the capture of a U.S. merchant vessel by a Cambodian navy ship off the coast of Cambodia. Pentagon sources later reported that ships from the Seventh Fleet,along with the U.S. aircraft carrier Coral Sea, were heading for the Gulf of Thailand. We will be reporting on these events as soon as we have reliable information.]

FRENCH DOCTOR IN CAMBODIA RETRACTS CLAIMS OF KHMER ROUGE ATROCITIES; U.S. GOVERNMENT ADMITS LACK OF INFORMATION ON ALLEGED "BLOOD BATH"

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia(LNS)--A French doctor in Phnom Penh who made headlines on May 9 when he reported witnessing Khmer Rouge atrocities, was given less press when he "revised" his statements a short time later.

Bernard Piquart, chief surgeon at a Phnom Penh hospital before liberation forces took the city on April 17, had told reporters May 8 that he had seen 300 corpses decapitated by the Khmer Rouge in the Phnom Penh market place on April 18.

Piquart declared that Sirik Matak and Long Boret, two officials of the former U.S.-backed Lon Nol regime, had been executed by a firing squad. He further claimed that he had treated French women who had been raped by the Khmer Rouge soldiers.

"After raping them, they pushed bottles up their vaginas and smashed them," he asserted. The doctor also claimed that he was forced, at gunpoint, to operate on many Khmer Rouge soldiers after the capital was liberated.

"I treated wounded Khmer Rouge soldiers with a grenade held to my back," Piquart claimed. "They told me, 'If you make a mistake, you'll be blown up.'"

Only twenty-four hours after he had made these claims, however, the doctor retracted them, admitting to an Agence France-Presse (AFP) reporter that he had never "seen all that." Piquart further admitted that he had gotten his information second hand, from a source described by the French daily Le Monde as "not very reliable."

Patrice de Beer, a Le Monde correspondent who was part of the group of foreigners who, along with Dr. Piquart, had taken refuge in the French Embassy following the capital's liberation, was astonished when told of Piquart's atrocity claims. During their long stay in the Embassy, the doctor had made no mention of either massacres or rapes, according to de Beer.

Piquart also revised his former assertion of having performed many operations at gunpoint, saying that he had been forced to perform only one.

The U.S. government and press have also circulated numerous reports of "blood baths" carried out by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia since April 17, which it later admitted were unsubstantiated. On May 5, the White House and State Department confirmed wire service reports on the alleged executions of key figures in the former Lon Nol government.

And in his press conference on May 6, President Ford responded to a question about a "blood bath" in Cambodia, strongly asserting that "We do have some intelligence reports to the effect that in Cambodia some 80 or 90 former Cambodian officials were executed, and in addition, their wives were executed.

"This isvery hard intelligence . . . very factual evidence of the blood bath that has taken place, or is in the process of taking place in Cambodia."

However, according to a little publicized AFP-AP report printed in Le Monde May 12, a State Department spokesperson officially admitted on May 9 that the American authorities had received no confirmation of either reprisals or massive assassinations in Cambodia.

The State Department official declared that the U.S. government had been "alarmed by the things that seemed to be happening there," but that information from Cambodia was "very fragmentary."

Also, commenting on the exodus from the capital--which many non Cambodians have portrayed as genocide by natural selection, claiming that only the strongest would survive--two AP reporters reported on May 9 that "not a single corpse was seen along our evacuation route."

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THOUSANDS WELCOME PRG STAFF TO PARIS EMBASSY

PARIS (LNS)--Under a light drizzle, thousands of Parisians with red flowers in their buttonholes marched past the Saigon Embassy on May 7 to greet the Provisional Revolutionary Government delegation that had officially moved in on that day.

Chanting, "Vietnam--Victory, Ho Ho Ho Chi Minh--Vietnam Has Won!, and Long Live the Vietnamese People," the demonstrators marched past the flag of the PRG and Ambassador Pham Van Ba standing on the doorstep. Huge portraits of Ho Chi Minh reminded the demonstrators of the days when Ho Chi Minh had lived and worked in Paris and had joined the communist movement.

Pham Van Ba said, "We are happy to welcome you here before this little piece of our liberated territory. Ho Chi Minh dreamed of going to all the countries of the world to thank the people who had supported the Vietnamese struggle, and we take this occasion to thank the communists of France, and the French working class."

As part of the festive mood of the crowd, Vietnamese marchers set off fire-crackers and played on traditional Vietnamese drums.

- 30 -

(Thanks to Schofield Coryell for this information.)

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"I can't for the life of me understand why it is a matter of great interest to the American public that two men may have sat in the State Department or the Department of Defense or somewhere and discussed things that may be unacceptable to the American public."

--Former CIA director Richard Helms, April 28, responding to reporters' questions on a possible CIA plot to assassinate Fidel Castro

From: Congress of Afrikan People, 502 High St., Newark, N.J. 07102. (201) 621-2300.

The Congress of Afrikan People in association with the Black Student Collective and the Student Senate of City College of New York presents on African Liberation Day, May 24, 1975, Black & Puerto Rican Poetry. The reading will culminate the marches and speakers of African Liberation Day in both New Jersey (Newark) and New York City and will be held at I.S. 201, located at 127th St. and Madison Ave. in NYC.

The African Liberation Day march in Newark starts at Clinton Ave. & South 10th St at 10AM and will end up at Military Park around 2PM. There will be speakers from Zimbabwe, South Africa, Eritrea, the Palestine Liberation Organization and others. For more information about African Liberation Day activities, contact CAP at the above address.

* * *

From: New German Critique, Department of German, PO Box 413, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wis. 53201.

New German Critique, an interdisciplinary Marxist Journal of German Studies, is the first American journal to develop a comprehensive discussion of German politics, social theory, literature and art on an international level. Each issue contains original articles by authors here and abroad, translations of significant articles published in German, comprehensive reports on current international research in various areas of German studies, and a substantial review section. Subscriptions are $6 a year for 3 issues.

* * *

From: Lawyers Military Defense Committee, 1346 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 604, Washington DC 20036. (202) 659-1138.

The ACLU Practice Manual on Military Discharge Upgrading has been published and is available from the Literature Dept., ACLU, 22 East 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10016 for $10.

The Manual includes 235 pages of single-spaced text and 71 pages of appendices. The text discusses in detail all aspects of case preparation before the Discharge Review Boards and Boards for Correction of Military Records. There are sections dealing with homosexuality, drugs, alcoholism, federal litigation, procedural errors, etc. Over 135 pages are devoted to a summary of the pertinent portions of all discharge regulations from 1950 (1961 for Marine) to the present. This part is particularly valuable since many of these regulations are not in any organized form anywhere--even at the Pentagon. The appendices contain regulations, forms, and other useful factual information.

* * *

From: Sagaris, PO Box 88, Plainfield, VT 05667 or in New York City (212) 877-0335.

Sagaris is an independent institute for the study of feminist thought. Its purpose is to provide a framework, for women with prior involvement in women's issues, to study with some of the important feminist thinkers.

Our main emphasis will be on political theory courses, with electives in psychology, journalism, education and creative writing. We will also offer courses in body development and economics, and will provide many special lectures and events.

The program will be intensive. There will be two 5 week sessions (June 9-July 12 and July 21-August 23), each with space for 120 students. The 1975 sessions will be held at Lyndon State College in Lyndonville, Vermont. Daycare will be provided. Tuition for a 5-week session is $400, room and board, $300. Some financial aid will be available. For more information about who will be teaching and what, contact the above address.

* * *

From: Women's Press, 280 Bloor St. W., Suite 305, Toronto, Ontario Canada. (416) 962-3905.

Women at Work: Ontario, 1850-1930 is a collection of essays that examines various facets of women's work in a historical perspective. Based on extensive primary research into statistical sources, personal accounts, newspapers and institutional records, this book discusses both the working conditions and activities of nurses, teachers, domestic servants, prostitutes and industrial workers.

Women at Work has 416 pages and 41 illustrations and can be ordered at the above address for $6 paper, $12.50 cloth.

* * *

From: Women Strike For Peace, 799 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003.

Women Strike For Peace has produced a record entitled Save the Children: Songs From the Hearts of Women. It includes songs by Joan Baez, Judy Collins, Barbara Dane, Mimi Farina, Janis Ian, Viveca Lindfors, The Mamas (of the Mamas and the Papas), Odetta, The Pennywhistlers, Malvina Reynolds and Buffy Sainte-Marie.

To order the record ($5 plus postage) or for more information about posters, buttons and books offered by Women Strike for Peace, write to the above address.

* * *

From: LNS

LNS received a letter recently from a prisoner named Livio Troiani who would really appreciate a correspondence with someone on the outside. His address is #140458, PO Box 69, London, Ohio 43140.

* * *

From: North American Survival and Homesteading Association, Box 4077 Station "A", Toronto, Ontario M5W 1m4 Canada.

The 1975 NASHA Survival Catalogue of useful and hard-to-find information on self-sufficiency is now available by writing to the above address.

END OF RMBB FOR TODAY

(See graphics)

NORTH CAROLINA ACTIVISTS PICKET ITT ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (LNS)--ITT's annual stockholders meeting was disrupted inside and out of the corporation's own Sheraton-Center Inn in Charlotte May 7 by some forty activists.

"We want ITT to know that wherever they go, there are people who protest their exploitation of people worldwide," said a spokesperson for the People's Coalition Against ITT, which organized the protest.

As the Coalition picketed outside the hotel, ITT security forces, with help from off-duty Charlotte police officers, prowled the corridors and grounds, prompting the Charlotte News to observe that "the annual meeting appeared as well organized as a military move in hostile territory."

Inside, two protesters held up a cloth banner with a red border and blue lettering reading "We must crush in its infancy the aristocracy of the monied corporation--Thomas Jefferson." Another sign read "ITT Go Home (If You Can Find One.)"

Due to a slick maneuver by ITT, only six, instead of twelve, activists were able to get into the meeting as proxy voters, but they managed to virtually dominate the meeting. They demanded that ITT stop production of electronic equipment used in the "electronic battlefield"; end relations with South Africa and Rhodesia; issue a public statement to the effect that ITT helped overthrow the constitutionally-elected government of Salvador Allende in Chile; and adopt a resolution that it will never again intervene in the internal affairs of another country.

Demands were also made for ITT to stop its science research in Chile and to end huge profits and the search for cheap foreign labor which results in runaway shops and denies jobs to workers in the U.S.

ITT board charman Harold Geneen tried to slip through the confrontation by claiming, among other things, that ITT did not make any "offensive military equipment." Referring to the subverting of foreign governments, Geneen said "We have a definite policy against that kind of thing." At one point he remarked, "Let's get back from South Africa and Chile to the company's business."

ITT's business is centered in 10 major fields of production. It has 280 operations, about one thousand subsidiaries and subsidiaries of subsidiaries, and is in almost 90 countries of the world. The corporation's earnings declined 13% in 1974 from 1973 but it nevertheless had sales and revenues totalling more than $11 billion, which was an increase over the previous year. ITT's net income in 1974 was $452 million.

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(See packet #691 for background)

TRIBAL CHAIRMAN RICHARD WILSON INDICTED ON MINIMAL CHARGES

RAPID CITY, South Dakota (LNS)--Indictments on misdemeanor assault charges have been issued against Oglala Sioux Tribal Chairman Richard Wilson and six members of his private police force by a federal grand jury in Rapid City. The grand jury was investigating violence on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

The assault charge against the seven is in connection with their attack, along with many other members of Wilson's squad, on Wounded Knee defendant Bernardo Escamilla and Wounded Knee legal workers on the Pine Ridge Reservation February 26.

The misdemeanor charge was the least severe charge possible. According to the Pine Ridge Oglala constitution, anyone convicted of a felony cannot run for tribal chairman, so the misdemeanor indictment insures that Wilson will still be able to run in the future. Wilson and the six others face maximum penalties of $500 fines and/or six months in prison. They have all been released on their own recognizance.

The grand jury treatment of Wilson and members of his squad contrasts sharply with their treatment of those on the reservation who oppose Wilson. American Indian Movement (AIM) spiritual leader Leonard Crow Dog was indicted by the grand jury on felony charges in connection with an alleged beating incident from which the "victim" walked away. Four other AIM members were indicted by the grand jury, arrested on felony charges and held on large bonds for an unrelated assault which supposedly occurred on February 26.

Last year the same all-white grand jury refused to indict Richard Wilson on charges of selling liquor on the Pine Ridge Reservation in violation of federal and tribal law.

Virgil Kill Straight, a member of the tribal council who has announced his candidacy for the chairmanship, has called for Wilson's impeachment in response to the indictments. "The tribal council should not condone Wilson's violent actions but should impeach him. . . . This is a tribal council controlled by Wilson. This situation is colonialism," he said.

"I can't see why the government is paying so much money for the courts to surround Indian people," said Gladys Bisonette, a member of the Oglala Civil Rights Association who was active in the Wounded Knee occupation.

"If they had just listened to us and gotten Wilson out of the government to begin with," she added, "all this, all this bloodshed could have been prevented. We stood up because we don't want this corruption on the reservation."

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ALABAMA GOVERNOR SAYS "YOU CAN'T TRUST A COMMUNIST"

NEW YORK (LNS)--"I think we were fighting the wrong people in World War II," said Alabama Governor George Wallace in a lengthy interview with 25 foreign correspondents taking a U.S. Information Agency tour of the "New-New South." "My foreign policy, if I were president, would be based on the fact that you can't trust a Communist," he said.

The Alabama Governor is expected to announce his presidential candicay some time in June. -30-

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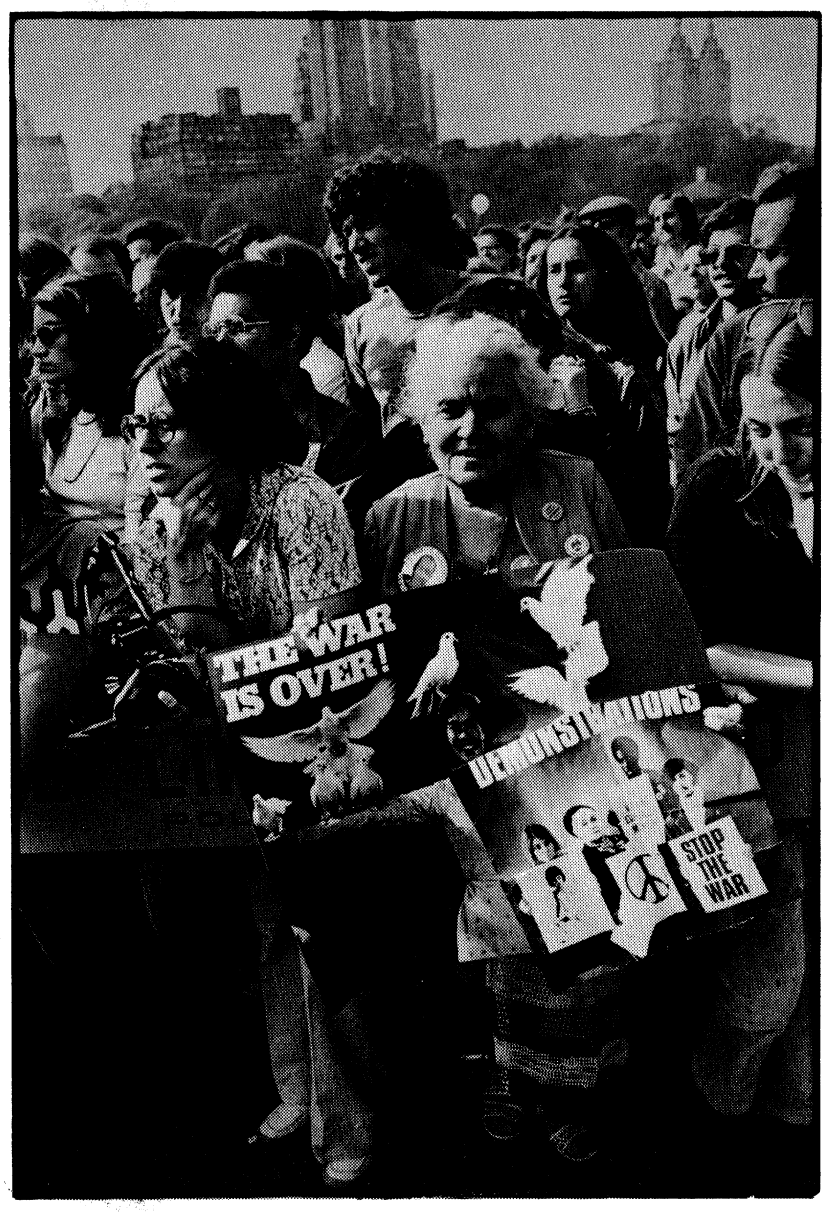
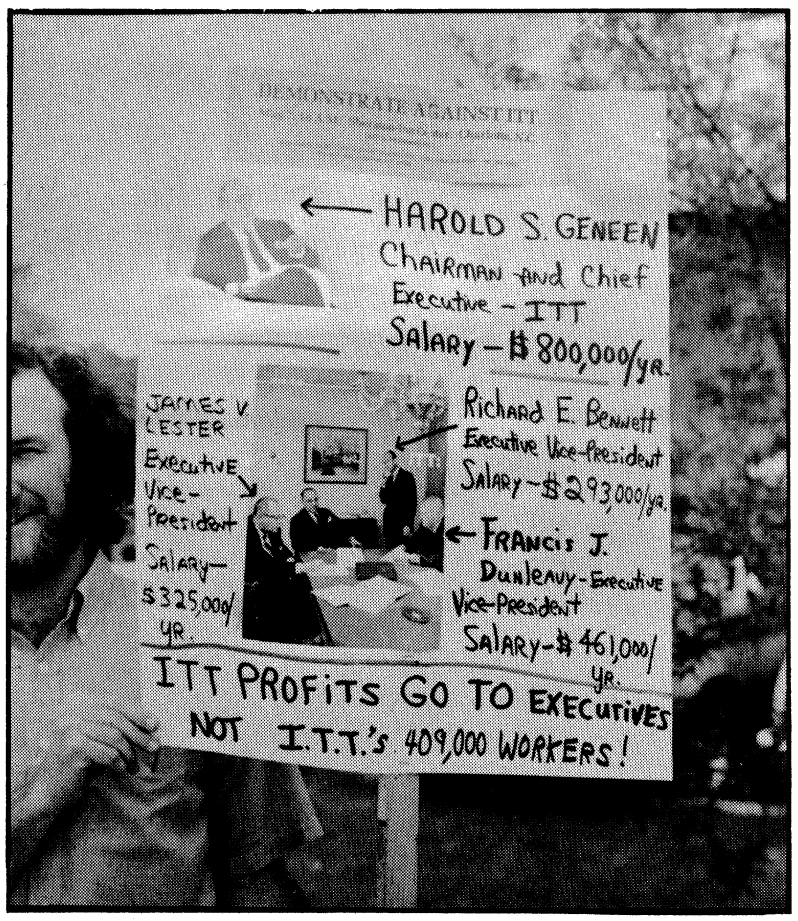
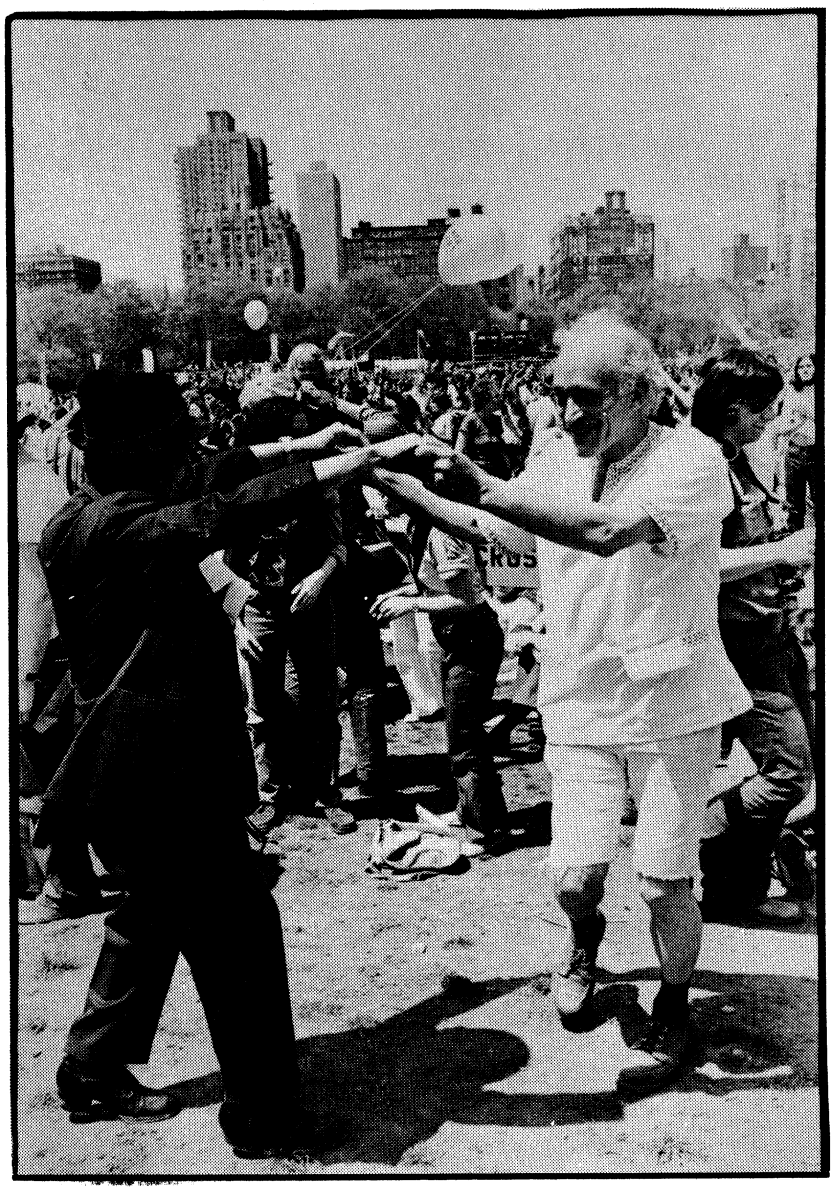
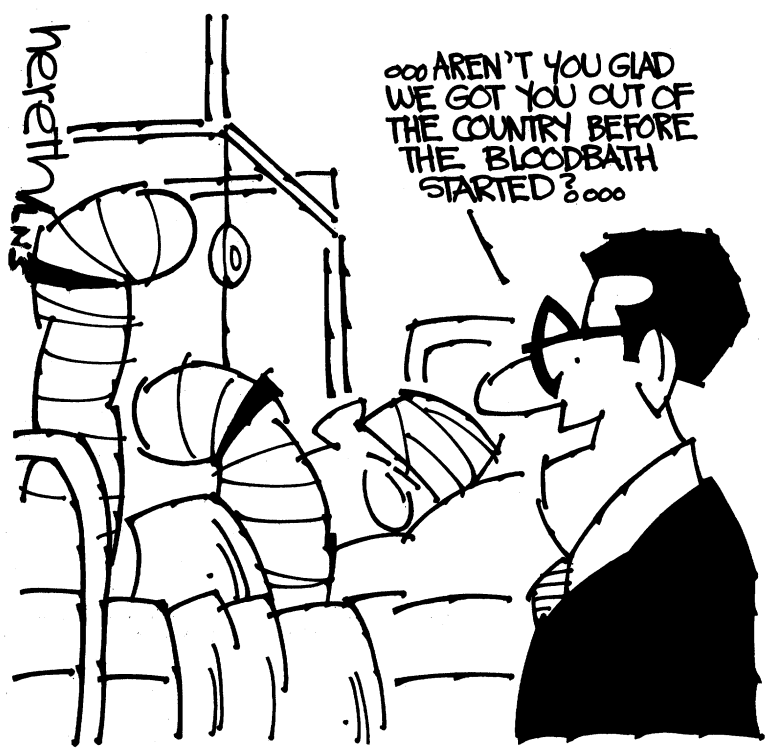

THE WAR IS OVER!
DEMONSTRATIONS
STOP THE WAR


HAROLD S. GENEEN
Chairman and Chief
Executive - ITT
Salary - $800,000/yr.
JAMES V
LESTER
Executive
Vice-
President
Salary-
$325,000/
yr.
Richard E. Bennett
Executive Vice-President
Salary - $293,000/yr.
FRANCIS J.
DUNLEAVY - Executive
Vice-President
Salary - $461,000/
yr.
ITT PROFITS GO TO EXECUTIVES
NOT I.T.T.'s 409,000 WORKERS!




...AREN'T YOU GLAD WE GOT YOU OUT OF THE COUNTRY BEFORE THE BLOODBATH STARTED?...

TOP RIGHT: People painting and balloons reading "The War is Over, May 1975" decorated New York's Central Park May 11th.

CREDIT: LNS [illegible]

SEE STORY ON PAGE 4.

TOP LEFT: Cover repeat. Photograph from the End of the War Celebration in Central Park, NYC on May 11th.

CREDIT: LNS Graphics

SEE PAGE 4 FOR THE STORY.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Photo of a sign that was carried at the May 7th action in Charlotte, North Carolina at the 55th annual stockholders ITT meeting.

CREDIT: Peoples Coalition Against ITT/LNS

BOTTOM RIGHT: "Bloodbath" cartoon.

CREDIT: Hereth/LNS

SEE PAGE 5 AND THE STORY.

BOTTOM LEFT: Dancing in the park people celebrated the end of the war in Central Park.

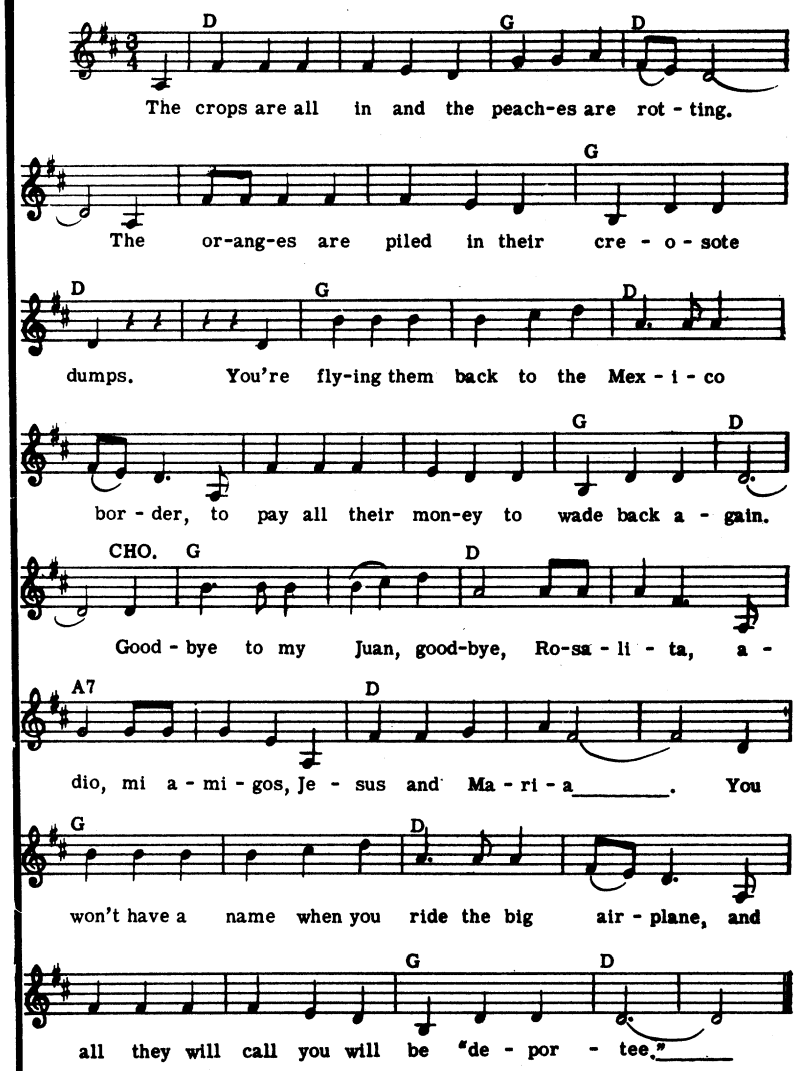
CREDIT: LNS

SEE PAGE 4.

Song of the Deportees

Words: Woody Guthrie
Music: Marty Hoffman

A few years ago the newspapers reported the crash in Mexico of a plane which was flying home a large group of Mexican "wetback" workers who had entered the United States illegally -- induced by promises of good-paying jobs from unscrupulous agents of the large fruit orchards in California. Woody Guthrie immediately wrote the following song. The tune by Marty Hoffman has been slightly adapted by Pete Seeger.



My father's own father, he waded that river,
They took all the money he made in his life;
My brothers and sisters come working the fruit trees.
And they rode the truck till they took down and died.

-Chorus-

Some of us are illegal, and some are not wanted,
Our work contract's out and we have to move on;
Six hundred miles to that Mexican border,
They chase us like outlaws, like rustlers, like thieves.

-Chorus-

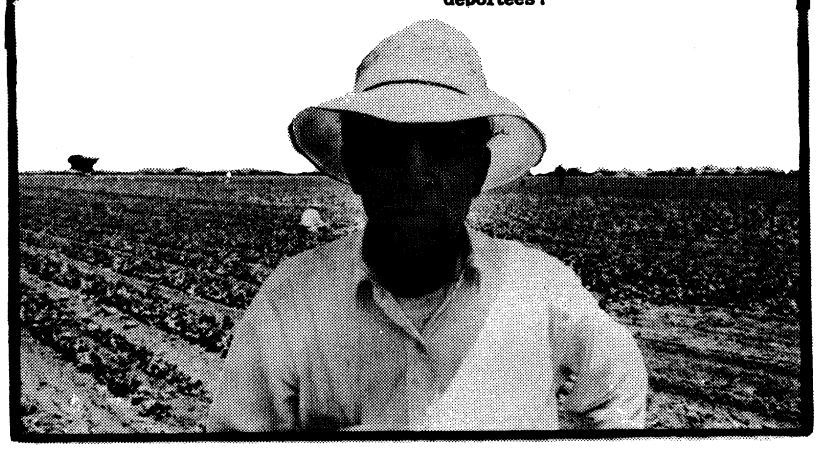
We died in your hills, we died in your deserts,
We died in your valleys and died on your plains,
We died 'neath your trees and we died in your bushes,
Both sides of the river, we died just the same.

-Chorus-

The sky plane caught fire over Los Gatos Canyon,
A fireball of lightning, and shook al' our hills.
Who are all these friends, all scattered like dry leaves?
The radio says they are just deportees.

-Chorus-

Is this the best way we can grow our big orchards?
Is this the best way we can grow our good fruit?
To fall like dry leaves to rot on my topsoil
And be called by no name except deportees?



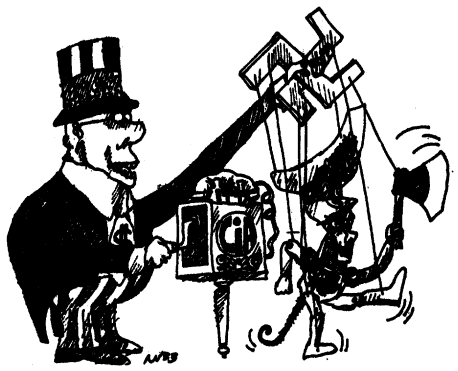
(sung to the tune of "Little Brown Jug")

1) CIA & ITT
Go together don't you see;
They hardly ever disagree,
Do CIA & ITT

2) "In Vietnam," the President said,
"We like them better dead than Red."
"We'll bomb them automatically."
Say CIA & ITT.

3) CIA & ITT
Don't count bodies they don't see;
Death from the air comes painlessly -
To CIA & ITT.

4) When they saw Chile's social plan,
They gave the right a helping hand -
One million dollars offered free
"To CIA: love, ITT."



5) CIA & ITT
With socialism can't agree:
"Assassination's fine with me,"
Says CIA to ITT.

6) South African apartheid's blight
Comes down, for them, to "white makes right:"
Cause that makes profits, don't you see,
For CIA & ITT.

7) Says CIA to ITT,
"Discrimination's good for me:
"We won't be here if they get free,"
Says CIA to ITT.

8) Back in the good old USA
They close the plants - you loose your pay.
Business is better overseas,
For CIA & ITT.

9) CIA & ITT
Flourish multinationally;
Rice for you and beans for me -
The gravy goes to ITT.

10) Oh, CIA & ITT,
Go together, don't you see:
They hardly ever disagree,
Do CIA & ITT.

RIGHT: "CIA & ITT" sung to the tune of the "Little Brown Jug".

CREDIT: Peoples' Coalition Against ITT, Durham, N.C./LNS

GRAPHIC: Nuez/LNS

LEFT: The "Song of Deportees" by Woodie Guthrie with music by Marty Hoffman.

Photo CREDIT: Ken Light/LNS